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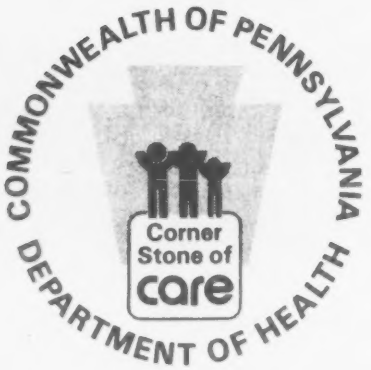
HEALTH PROFILES FOR PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES



Chester

1986

State Health Data Center

Dick Thornburgh, *Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*
H. Arnold Muller, M.D., *Secretary of Health*

The Pennsylvania Department of Health has a legislative mandate to "protect the health of the people of the Commonwealth and to determine the most efficient and practical means for the prevention and suppression of disease." In order to advance toward these goals, we need statistical information on the health status of the population, the health care delivery system, and demographic and population characteristics.

The first health profiles were published in 1977 to provide a compendium of health data. These profiles have been updated and revised biennially, starting in 1978, to better meet the needs of governmental leaders, health program specialists, state and local planners, and concerned citizens.

The Health Profiles for Pennsylvania Counties are a series of 68 individual profiles - one for each county and one for the Commonwealth. The most recent information available was used. The year which the data represents is included in the profiles following each data item. Estimated population figures for 1984 are used throughout the profiles for the listed population as well as in the computation of all rates.

The major data source is the State Health Data Center, Pennsylvania Department of Health - specifically the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program, the Annual Hospital and Long Term Care Questionnaires, the Uniform Data Collection System for drug and alcohol information and the Developmental Disabilities Facility Questionnaire as funded by the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. Additional sources include other units of the Department, (i.e. the Bureaus of Quality Assurance, Epidemiology and Disease Prevention, and Special Public Health Services), Pennsylvania State Data Center, Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, Pennsylvania Office of Employment Security and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

The profiles will continue to be updated biennially, with the next edition available in 1988. Comments and suggestions for improvement are welcome. If there are any questions or if additional information is needed, please contact the State Health Data Center, Pennsylvania Department of Health, P.O. Box 90, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108, telephone number (717) 783-2548.

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

1. DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Total Land Area in Square Miles	761	Median Age of Population (1980)	30.5
Estimated Population (1984)	334,701	% Population Urban (1980)	54.6
Population per Square Mile (1984)	440	Per Capita Personal Income (1983)	$14,208
% Population Change 1980 to 1984	+ 5.7	% of Population Receiving Cash Assistance (1985)	2.3
Projected Population (1990)	359,057	% of Labor Force Unemployed-Annual Average (1985)	5.0
% Population Change 1980 to 1990	+ 13.4	% of Pop. Eligible for Medical Assistance (1985)	3.8

Estimated Population by Age and Sex (1984)

AGE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	AGE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
ALL AGES	334,701	163,940	170,761	35-44	50,148	24,715	25,433
0-4	23,651	12,133	11,518	45-54	33,734	16,964	16,770
5-14	48,160	24,872	23,288	55-64	31,476	15,403	16,073
15-24	57,015	28,500	28,515	65+	32,497	13,202	19,295
25-34	58,020	28,151	29,869				

2. MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES (1984)

Number of Marriages	2,420	Number of Divorces	1,110
Rate per 1,000 Population	7.2	Rate per 1,000 Population	3.3
Median Age of Bride	25	Median Age of Wife	34
Median Age of Groom	27	Median Age of Husband	37

3. NATALITY (1984)

Number of Resident Births	4,809
Rate per 1,000 Population	14.4
Median Age of Mother	27
% Low Birth Weight (<2500 grams)	5.2

Resident Births by Age of Mother, Number and Percent (1984)

AGE	NUMBER	PERCENT	AGE	NUMBER	PERCENT
ALL AGES	4,809	100.0	30-34	1,234	25.7
UNDER 15	11	0.2	35-39	357	7.4
15-19	386	8.0	40-44	43	0.9
20-24	1,080	22.5	45+	1	0.0
25-29	1,695	35.3	UNKNOWN	2	0.0

4. MORBIDITY (1985)

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases

Gonorrhea		412	Meningitis:	Aseptic	11	Salmonellosis	78
Hepatitis:	Type A	7	Meningitis:	Meningococcal	3	Shigellosis	14
Hepatitis:	Type B	2	Mumps		1	Syphilis	3
Hepatitis:	Unspecified	0	Rubella		0	Tuberculosis	9
Hepatitis:	Non-A/Non-B	1					

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS (Continued)

5. MORTALITY (1984)

Number of Resident Deaths	2,508	Number of Resident Infant Deaths	56
Crude Rate per 1,000 Population	7.5	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	11.6
Median Age at Death	74.5	Number of Fatalities in Motor Vehicle Accidents in Which Driver Had Been Drinking	29

Leading Causes of Death by Age Group, Number and Percent (1984)

All Ages			Under 5 Years of Age			5-24 Years of Age		
Cause	Number	Percent	Cause	Number	Percent	Cause	Number	Percent
Heart Disease	966	38.5	Perinatal Conditions	28	46.7	Accidents, All Forms	44	72.1
Cancer	603	24.0	Congenital Anomalies	17	28.3	Suicide	7	11.5
Cerebrovascular Disease	153	6.1	Hernia/Intestinal Obstruction	3	5.0	Homicide	3	4.9
Accidents, All Forms	122	4.9	Heart Disease	2	3.3	Cancer	2	3.3
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	77	3.1				Congenital Anomalies	1	1.6
All Other	587	23.4	All Other	10	16.7	All Other	4	6.6
TOTAL	2,508	100.0	TOTAL	60	100.0	TOTAL	61	100.0

25-44 Years of Age			45-64 Years of Age			65 Years of Age and Over		
Cause	Number	Percent	Cause	Number	Percent	Cause	Number	Percent
Accidents, All Forms	30	28.3	Cancer	179	37.8	Heart Disease	791	43.8
Cancer	25	23.6	Heart Disease	157	33.2	Cancer	397	22.0
Heart Disease	16	15.1	Cerebrovascular Disease	17	3.6	Cerebrovascular Disease	133	7.4
Homicide	5	4.7	Accidents, All Forms	15	3.2	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	67	3.7
			Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	14	3.0	Pneumonia and Influenza	52	2.9
All Other	30	28.3	All Other	91	19.2	All Other	368	20.4
TOTAL	106	100.0	TOTAL	473	100.0	TOTAL	1,808	100.0

HEALTH SERVICES AND FACILITIES

1. HOSPITALS (1985)

Number of Hospitals by Type:

Total	General Acute Care	Psychiatric	Rehabilitation	Federal	Other
9	5	1	1	1	1

Number of General Hospitals with the Following Ambulatory Care Services/Facilities:

Community Mental Health Center	0	Structured Clinics	3	Emergency Services Capability:	
Home Health Service	2	Family Practice Center	0	Limited 0	General 5
				Basic 0	Comprehensive 0

Number of General/Specialty Hospitals with Neonatal Units:

Well Infant Nursery	3	Neonatal Intermediate Care Unit	0	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	0

General Hospitals:

	Number	Number per 1,000 Pop.
Beds Set Up & Staffed	849	2.5
Admissions	36,888	110.2

Specialty and Federal Hospitals:

	Number	Number per 1,000 Pop.
Beds Set Up & Staffed	1,001	3.0
Admissions	5,334	15.9

Average General Hospital Semi-Private Daily Room Rate $228

HEALTH SERVICES AND FACILITIES (Continued)

2. NURSING HOMES [1984]

Licensed/Approved Facilities by Level of Care and Certification

Type of Facility	Total	Certified-Medicare	Certified-Medicaid
Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)	7	5	4
Intermediate Care Facility (ICF)	2	0	2
SNF/ICF Combined Facility	8	8	6
TOTAL	17	13	12

Level of Care	Number of Licensed/ Approved Beds	Number per 1,000 Population Aged 65 and Over
Skilled	1,027	31.6
Intermediate	965	29.7
Total (SNF + ICF)	1,992	61.3

Median Age of Residents in Long Term Care Facilities 81.4

Median Semi-Private Daily Room Rate
Skilled $65
Intermediate $62

3. OTHER HEALTH SERVICES/FACILITIES

a. Drug and Alcohol Treatment [1985]

Admissions to State Supported Drug and Alcohol Treatment Facilities

Number of Facilities	Total Admissions	Primary Diagnosis: Drug Abuse	Primary Diagnosis: Alcohol Abuse	Primary Diagnosis: Other*	Percent First Admissions
19	2,479	604	1,753	122	43.6

Number of State Supported Drug and Alcohol Treatment Facilities Providing Specified Services

Inpatient Non-Hospital	Inpatient Hospital	Correctional Institution	Partial Hospitalization	Outpatient	Shelter
4	4	0	2	12	1

*Includes family members receiving counseling.

b. Emergency Health Services [1985]

Certified Emergency Medical Technicians	779	Certified Paramedics I	9
Ambulance Providers	29	Certified Paramedics II	40

c. Agencies/Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled [1983]

Total Number of Agencies/Facilities 20

Total Serving the Following Disabilities:

Mental Retardation	15	Autism	11	Muscular Dystrophy	10
Cerebral Palsy	14	Learning Disabilities	13	Other	14
Epilepsy	13	Multiple Sclerosis	9		

d. Primary Health Care Centers [1985]

Number of Agencies 1

e. Licensed Boarding Homes [1985]

Number of Homes 21